

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 18, 20, and 22-38 and please add Claims 39-44 as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A bezel for facilitating connection between an external device positioned on one side of a communication panel and a module located on an opposite side of the communication panel, the communication panel having an opening for receiving the bezel, the bezel comprising:

a housing, the housing defining an interior portion;

a first open end insertable for insertion into the opening and the module through the opening, wherein the first open end is positioned and configured to receive ~~receives~~ a first communication connection of the module for connection with the external device; and

a second open end having an openable ~~a removable~~ cover,

wherein the second open end is configured to receive ~~receives~~ at least a second communication connection of the external device for connection with the first communication connection when the openable cover is open, without substantially disrupting operation of the module,

~~wherein the external device comprises an optical attenuator, and~~

wherein the interior portion ~~also~~ is configured to house ~~for housing~~ an optical coupler for connecting the first communication connection of the module to the second communication connection of the external device.

19. (Previously Presented) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the optical coupler comprises an SC optical coupler.

20. (Currently Amended) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the housing is positioned at an angle relative to the communication panel when the first open end is inserted into the module.

21. (Previously Presented) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the housing includes a side having an edge for engagement of at least an edge of the optical coupler.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for optically coupling an optical attenuator to a communication module disposed on an internal side of a panel, comprising the steps of:

optically coupling an optical coupler to the communication module through module, ~~wherein the coupling is facilitated by~~ an opening in the panel that provides access from an external side of the panel to the communication module; and

optically connecting an end of the optical attenuator to the optical coupler, to thereby optically couple the optical attenuator to the communication module through the optical coupler.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

positioning at least a portion of the optical coupler within a housing of a mechanical bezel; and

attaching the mechanical bezel to the communication module through the opening in the panel, ~~to thereby optically coupling cause the optical coupler and the to become optically coupled to communication module.~~

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 22, wherein the optical coupler is a SC coupler.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 22, further comprising the step of connecting an external optical connector to another, opposite end of the optical attenuator.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to Claim 22, wherein the optical attenuator is disposed, at least initially, on an external side of the panel opposite to the internal side of the panel.

27. (Currently Amended) A mechanical bezel, comprising:  
a first, housing portion having an inner channel extending in a direction of a line connecting between first and second open ends of the first, housing portion; and

a second portion extending from the first open end of the first, housing portion, and being adapted to couple the mechanical bezel to a communication module disposed on an internal side of a the panel so that the first open end is closer to the communication module than the second open end when at least a portion of the mechanical bezel is inserted at least partially through ~~an~~ the opening of the panel.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, further comprising a cover disposed at the second open end of the first, housing portion, the cover being adjustable for being placed in either a closed position to cover ~~provide covering~~ at the second open end, or an opened position in which at least part of the second open end is not covered by the cover.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical bezel is disposed at an angle relative to the panel when the second portion is coupled to the communication module.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 29, wherein the second open end is disposed in a lower orientation than is the first open end when the second portion is coupled to the communication module.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, wherein the inner channel is configured to receive at least a portion of an optical coupler ~~is disposed in the channel.~~

32. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 31, wherein the inner channel is configured to permit the optical coupler is to be optically connected to the communication module when the optical coupler is received by the inner channel.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 31, wherein the inner channel is also configured to receive said wherein an optical attenuator and to permit the optical attenuator to be is optically coupled to the communication module through the optical coupler.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical bezel is configured to couple ~~couples~~ to the communication module without substantially disrupting operation of the communication module.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical bezel is configured to couple ~~couples~~ to the communication module without placing the communication module out of service.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27, wherein the inner channel is configured to receive an optical attenuator and to permit the optical attenuator to be is optically coupled to the communication module.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 31, wherein the optical coupler is a SC coupler.

38. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The mechanical bezel according to Claim 33, wherein the inner channel is configured to permit an external optical connector ~~is to be~~ connected to an end of the optical attenuator opposite to an end of the optical attenuator to which the communication module is optically coupled.

39. (New) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the interior portion is configured to permit entry of the optical coupler through the first open end.

40. (New) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the first open end includes a plurality of projecting members insertable into the module, each projecting member including an end having an inclined portion ending in a shoulder portion, the inclined portion and the shoulder portion forming at least a portion of a cam surface.

41. (New) The bezel according to claim 40, wherein at least part of the cam surface substantially locks the housing to the module, thereby maintaining at least a portion of the optical coupler in a position within the interior of the housing.

42. (New) The bezel according to Claim 18, wherein the housing includes a longitudinally extending open portion configured to permit a tab of the optical coupler to pass therethrough beyond the exterior of the housing, and wherein the housing includes an edge defining an end of the longitudinally extending open portion and engageable with the tab of the optical coupler when the optical coupler is inserted through the first open end.

43. (New) The method according to Claim 23,  
wherein the positioning step positions the optical coupler within a housing of the mechanical bezel through a first end of the housing, and  
wherein the step of optically connecting an end of the optical attenuator to the optical coupler connects an end of the optical attenuator to the optical coupler at or through a second end of the housing, opposite from the first end.

44. (New) The mechanical bezel according to Claim 27,  
wherein the first, housing portion comprises two opposed side walls, wherein an interior portion of each side wall comprises a guiding member, and  
wherein the guiding members form the inner channel.